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NEW THYSANOPTERA FROM FLORIDA—VII

J. R. WATSON

29. Haplothrips orlando Wats. & Osborn.

The original type of this insect (Florida Buggist, Vol. II, No. 4, p. 116) is a male. We now have two females and three additional males. These were collected by beating mostly "oak-runners" (*Quercus pumuli*) in the "flat woods" east of Gainesville, August 9. This is evidently a flat woods insect, as the ecological situation at the type locality near Orlando was similar.

Female. *Measurements:* Total length 1.8 mm.; head, length .21 mm., width .19 mm.; prothorax, length .18, breadth .32 mm.; abdomen, width .44 mm.; tube, length .145, width at base .055, at apex .04 mm.; antennae, segment 1, 40; 2, 53; 3, 67; 4, 62; 5, 53; 6, 50; 7, 49; 8, 48 microns; total, .40 mm. Color identical with that of the male; considerably smaller. Fore femora are but slightly enlarged. Tarsal tooth much smaller, in one ♀ entirely absent. A brown area at the extreme base of the wings. The number of interlocated hairs varies from 15 to 25, usually about 20. Type in the author's collection.

Male. The new males are considerably larger than the type, averaging 2.25 mm. in length. In some of them the tarsal tooth is scarcely half as large as in the type, and no larger than that of one female.

45. Haplothrips statices (Haliday).

Gainesville, Fla., July 10, sweeping in short grass along stream. In some of these specimens, as also in some the writer has from Massachusetts and Oregon, post-ocular bristles are present. In the original description and in Moulton's key they are said to be absent.

**A CASE OF SERIOUS SICKNESS DUE TO THE
PUSS MOTH CATERPILLAR**

The editor recently received from Dr. H. D. Venters of the State Board of Health a caterpillar of the puss moth with the statement that "a boy almost died" from the effects of contact with the larva "which poisoned him similar to the bite of a rattlesnake".

Different individuals react very differently to the poison of various insects. The editor has frequently been "stung" by these larvae which are not uncommon in citrus groves. On him the effects were little more serious than those resulting from contact with a nettle or our common pretty "Horse Nettle" (*Solanum sp.*). Can it be that different specimens of the insect also vary

immensely in the quantity or quality of their poison? We did not feel sufficiently positive on this point to care to handle that particular caterpillar.

Note—A recent visit to the Dudley place, a large stock farm thirteen miles west of Gainesville, offered the most conclusive proof of my main point as to the ease with which mosquitoes may be controlled. Here we have ideal natural breeding pools all about and scores of farm animals to supply blood and still for three nights I slept between two large windows, wide open, shaded by shrubbery and without screens or netting of any kind without once hearing the song of a mosquito. Keeping the rain water barrels and the cistern stocked with minnows, one or two in each barrel and five or six in the cistern, and strict attention to all watering troughs had completely solved the problem.—C. F. Hodge.

WANTED—To buy or exchange for northern species, southern Chrysopidae (Lace-winged-flies). All stages desired, especially material for biological studies. Will determine specimens. Dr. Roger C. Smith, U. S. Ent. Lab., Charlottesville, Va.

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